

Communicable Disease

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

School personnel are required to report diseases of public health importance to the Vermont Department of Health.

AUTHORIZATION/LEGAL REFERENCE:

18 V.S.A. Chapter 21 – Communicable diseases

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/sections.cfm?Title=18&Chapter=021>

Vermont School Quality Standards, Section 2120.8.1.3.3

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/board/rules/2000.html#leadership>

Vermont Department of Health; Communicable Disease Regulations

http://healthvermont.gov/regs/communicable_disease_regs.pdf

DEFINITION:

Communicable disease - An infectious or contagious disease that can be transmitted from one person to another by direct physical contact, infected airborne droplets, etc.

Nuisance condition - Nuisance-type conditions include: Pediculosis (lice), Scabies and Ringworm.

Reportable disease – List of communicable disease defined by VDH that are required to be reported.

REQUIRED SCHOOL NURSE/ASSOCIATE SCHOOL NURSE ROLE:

Call VDH Reporting Line 1-888-588-7781, within 24 hours when you have reason to believe a student is sick or has died of a suspected reportable disease; identify the name and address of the student and the name and address of student's medical home. See link for list of reportable diseases.

http://healthvermont.gov/prevent/reporting/reportable_disease.pdf

SUGGESTED SCHOOL NURSE/ASSOCIATE SCHOOL NURSE ROLES:

Be knowledgeable about current communicable disease regulations and control, current reportable diseases, and nuisance conditions. Maintain contact with local Vermont Department of Health.

Collaborate with health care providers on limitations for the child upon return to school.

Promote prevention and control through health education, staff in-services and by serving as a resource person to staff.

Provide health counseling to parents and guardians regarding appropriate treatment and follow-up. Refer to medical provider when indicated.

Notify school administrators in the event of a communicable disease/nuisance conditions outbreak and follow guidelines established by the Vermont Department of Health regarding information and protocols.

Document appropriate information in the student's record.

Develop and write policies and procedures in collaboration with school administration.

RESOURCES:

Red Book: Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases. (25th ed.). (2003). Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics.

Vermont Department of Health School Liaisons

[http://www.healthvermont.gov/local/school/SchoolHealth-DO Contact Info.aspx](http://www.healthvermont.gov/local/school/SchoolHealth-DO>Contact Info.aspx)

Vermont Department of Health, Division of Epidemiology -

http://healthvermont.gov/prevent/reporting/disease_report.aspx

Vermont Department of Health, Division of Epidemiology Consultation and
Inquiries: 802-863-7240 (7:45 AM-4:30 PM M-F) or 1-800-640-4374 (VT only) 24
Hour Telephone Reporting Line: (802) 951-4080 or 1-888-588-7781
Emergency Consultation after normal business hours also available at numbers
above.

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Section 6

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SAMPLE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND FORMS:

Vermont Department of Health Reportable Diseases

http://healthvermont.gov/prevent/reporting/reportable_lab.pdf

Vermont Department of Health Head Lice Recommendations

<http://healthvermont.gov/prevent/lice/headlice.aspx>

Vermont Standards of Practice; School Health Services



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